

A BILL

FOR AN ACT REGULATING THE SETTLEMENT OF THE ESTATES OF DECEDENTS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa :

SECTION 1. That section 2420 of the Code be and the same is hereby amended by inserting after the word “legacies” in the fifth clause of said section the words, “and distributive shares.”

SEC. 2. That section 2421 of the Code, be and the same is hereby amended by striking out of the fourth and fifth lines the following words, “or, unless peculiar circumstances entitle the claimant to equitable relief.”

SEC. 3. That section 2430 of the Code be and the same is hereby amended by inserting after the words “legacies payable in money” the words, “and the distributive shares of the personalty.”

SEC. 4. That section 2431 of the Code be and the same is hereby amended by inserting after the words “such legacies” the words, “and such distributive shares.”

SEC. 5. That section 2469 of the Code be and the same is hereby amended by striking from the tenth line thereof the words “three years,” and by inserting in lieu thereof the words “eighteen months.”

SEC. 6. That chapter 5, title 16 of the Code be and the same is hereby amended by inserting the following section as section 2469½: “During the month of January of each year the clerk of the circuit court shall cite every executor and administrator who has failed to make a final settlement as provided in the previous section, to appear at the next term of said court and show cause why he has so failed. If such executor or administrator neglects to appear, or if appearing he does not show reasonable cause, for his failure to make the final settlement, he shall forfeit one hundred dollars to be recovered for the benefit of the estate as provided in section 2482.”

SEC. 7. That section 2475 of the Code be repealed and the following section be enacted in lieu thereof:

Sec. 2475. “Any person interested in the estate may attend upon the settlement of accounts by the executor and contest the same. No final settlement of an estate shall be valid unless notice thereof be served upon the heirs, devisees, legatees, and widow or husband of the decedent, in the same manner as is provided for the commencement of civil actions, and unless notice thereof as to the other parties be served by publishing it four consecutive weeks in some newspaper of general circulation published in the county to be selected by the clerk, the last of which publications shall be completed ten days before the first day of the term at which the final settlement is made.”